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HAMILTON LIFE

The Weekly Student Publication of Hamilton College

VOL. XII CLINTON, N. Y., TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1910 No. 17

Gym. Show

"Uncle John" announces the positive appearance of Mr. J. T. Crossley and his celebrated company of Hamilton College acrobats in Soper Gymnasium, for one night only, presumably during the week of March 13th. Uncle John says that this time the show is "surely coming off," and if the daily practice of the college's best gymnasts for the past week counts for aught, it would seem that "Uncle" is correct in his assertions.

Conditions for a Gym. Show are practically ideal. There is an unusually large amount of material, no less than thirty-six men having signified their intention of entering the various events. From the three upper classes may be selected a large number of experienced men, while constant work in Gym. has had a surprising effect upon the available Freshman material. Particularly significant is the fact that enthusiasm among the students in general is running high, and that "Uncle John" is assured of the support of the entire College body.

The program will not be unlike that of former years. A potato race will open the performance, followed by two bouts each of boxing and wrestling. The acrobats will be chosen from Colson, '11, Ingersoll and Clapp, '13, while Uncle John will contribute an acrobatic specialty of his own. For the flying rings a number of men are entered, among whom are Judson, '10, Day and Willard, '11, and Davis, '13. The entries for the high kick include Wheeler and Titus, '10, of whom the latter is the college champion, Wisehart and Mitchell, '11, and North and Lewis, '13. It has been decided to withdraw the rope-climbing contest this year in favor of the flexible pole. In regard to the high dive, Uncle John steadfastly maintains that the present record of five feet nine inches will be shattered to atoms. Among the entries are: Knox, '10, Bagg, Nixon and Alvord, '12, and Ingersoll, '13. It is also believed that some unique work will be presented by Drummond, Bates and Peters, '12, in their spring-board leaping, while Willard and Johnson, '11, on the parallel bars are expected to score heavily. In addition to these acts, the program will include the high jump, broad jump, as well as work with the dumb-bells, punching-bag and horse. The performers in these events will be chosen according to their showing at the Indoor Track Meet in Utica.

The grand finale will probably consist of work on the Roman ladders with several new "stunts." Donaldson, McGovern, Nixon, Root, '12, and Shaul and Taylor, '13, are all doing good work in preparation for this event.

"And," says Uncle John, "this one is surely coming off."

Basketball

In a practice game of Basketball in the Gymnasium last Thursday afternoon, the Freshmen defeated the Sophomores by a score of 51 to 41. The playing of Regin, Root, Woods, Mahady and Griswold was very good. Getman, '11, played with 1913 during the first half.

The line-up:

1912		1913
Knox (C. Root)	Right Forward	Griswold (Lewis)
C. Root (DuBordieu)	Left Forward	Mahady
Watkin	Center	Woods
McGovern (Hallock)	Right Guard	Stone (Reiss)
Regin (Eells)	Left Guard	Getman, '11 (Frear)

Field goals, Regin 9, C. Root 7, Eells 2, Watkin 2, Hallock 1, Woods 8, Griswold 7, Mahady 6, Getman, '11, 4, Lewis 1, C. Root 1, Woods 1.

Dartmouth Wins

At the annual athletic meet of Co. A of the Tenth Regiment N. G. N. Y., held in the State Armory in Albany Tuesday evening, the Varsity Relay Team was defeated by the Dartmouth four by a quarter of a lap. The time of the winning team was three minutes, forty-four and three-fifths seconds. The race, a mile in length, was closely contested, and Dartmouth's lead at the finish did not correctly represent the actual strength of Hamilton's running. The entire team received considerable praise for its plucky work, while Capt. Knox is credited with a particularly brilliant finish. Altho the relay race was the only intercollegiate event, the meet was notable in that W. J. Keating of the N. Y. Irish-American Team equalled the world's record of 6 and 2-5 seconds in the sixty-yard dash. A number of New York stars were among the entries.

Shaul, '13, started the race for Hamilton, running against Hoffman of Dartmouth. The latter proved to be an exceptionally fast man, giving his successor, J. K. Noyes, a comfortable lead over C. Root, '12, Hamilton's second man. Dartmouth held the lead gained in the first half of the race practically to the end, despite frequent spurts by Colson, '11, and Knox, '10. Their opponents were Holmes and Francis, respectively. Roberts, '13, accompanied the team as substitute.

The race was run on the ground floor of the Armory, the track merely being marked off with chalk, with no elevations at the turns. Slight unpleasantness before the event was caused by the fact that a member of the Dartmouth team persisted in wearing spiked running shoes, contrary to the conditions of the contest. The officials for the event were: Referee, H. Gallien, of Albany; starter, Chas. Kilpatrick, of the Irish-American A. C.; timers, Charles E. Ferry, of the N. Y. A. C. and Fred W. Newman, of Albany. A large crowd witnessed the race.

Winter Trip

By their Junior Week concert the Musical Clubs proved themselves the most finished musical organization that has ever represented Hamilton. With the confidence due to this success the Clubs start tomorrow on the first trip of the season. Four towns in the northern part of the state will be visited. Hamilton has always drawn men from this section; and interest in the college seems to insure large audiences.

Wednesday night the concert is in Lowville. Here the management has financial control of the performance and hopes to more than cover expenses. At Watertown and Oswego, where concerts will be given Thursday and Friday nights, respectively, the management is in the hands of local interests. The request from Oswego for one thousand programs indicates that a full house may be expected. Saturday night the Clubs will be at the Mex-

ico High School, and Sunday will return to college.

The only change in the program from that of Junior week is the seventh number. This is now divided into two parts, (a) a solo by Allen, '11, and (b) the two solos of Sarles, '10. Both Clubs have showed improvement during the past week, and a most successful trip is assured.

INTERCLASS GAMES

The series of Interclass Basketball games, for the championship of the College, will begin Friday, February 25th. The different class teams have been practicing for some time in preparation for the first games, and a good article of Basketball should be the result. The teams will have the advantage of having the best material in the class, a fact which, heretofore, has been impossible on account of the demands made by the Varsity. Several practice games have been played by the different classes, and the results, tho showing no advantage for any class, promise fast exhibitions in the regular games.

The Department of Intramural Sports has been unable to make the necessary arrangements for the Interfraternity League, and in consequence this feature of the Basketball season will be dropped.

The schedule for the Interclass series includes six games between the four classes, thus making it necessary for each team to play the representatives of the other three classes. The championship will be determined on a percentage basis, and in the event that two classes are tied for a position, the deciding game will be played at the convenience of the two teams. All of the games will be governed by the regular 1910 rules. Two games will be played each evening, the first game beginning at 7:45 sharp.

The schedule is as follows:

February 25th:
Seniors—Juniors,
Sophomores—Freshmen.

March 3rd:
Seniors—Sophomores,
Juniors—Freshmen.

March 10th:
Seniors—Freshmen,
Juniors—Sophomores.

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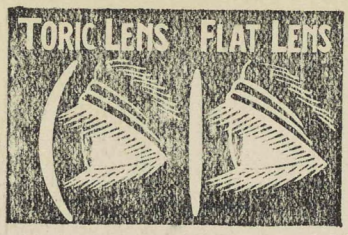

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THE MUSICAL CLUBS will start tomorrow on their annual mid-winter trip. The itinerary is for the most part in a territory where the Clubs have performed in past years, and so a hearty welcome is assured. And that brings to mind the fact that this organization has accomplished much in the few years that it has travelled extensively. Everywhere that the Hamilton Clubs have been is one which is always ready to receive them a second or third time, if the opportunity is afforded. It was surely a revolutionary movement when that Manager of a few years ago was ambitious enough to plan a Winter trip very similar to the one that the Clubs are taking this year. That it was a great success, and was followed by a still more pretentious trip, we all know. And, to quote our brother Editor, "the tide has been coming in ever since." This is the fourth year that the Hamilton Musical Clubs have been making two comparatively long trips each year, and every stop on every trip has added many new names to the list of Hamilton's friends. Musical Clubs have been a very successful advertising medium for the college, and as such have had the hearty support of the student-body. That spirit is not changed in the least this year. And those of us who are so unfortunate as not to be able to enjoy the coming four days with the Clubs, send our best wishes for a successful trip with them.

A GRADUATE SYSTEM OF COACHING was proposed at a recent meeting of the Advisory Board, and by virtue of the fact that it is radical, to say the least, deserves a little comment. We must say at the start that the proposed scheme does not seem to us one that would be conducive to successful Football Teams in the very near future. On the contrary, it would sound the knell of a winning team for the season of 1910. In theory, perhaps, the plan is alright, and has worked out in large colleges and universities; but at Hamilton we have an entirely different proposition. Since the team that has represented the college on the gridiron for the past several years has been a light one, we are safe in assuming that it will be of practically the same weight next year. Under existing conditions, the one requisite that a light team must have is tricky play—and we use the word tricky in no bad sense. Without this, success against heavier teams is impossible. The one factor necessary to secure this same feature is a competent coach. And here is where we strike the obstacle which would prevent the successful working out of the plan at Hamilton. Far be it from our purpose to disparage the ability of Hamilton's former gridiron warriors, but we must say that to secure such a man as is needed from their ranks would be practically impossible. Of the teams of recent years, say as far back as 1906, there have been not more than two, or at the most three, men on a team who would be capable of having the responsibility of the direction and coaching of the team. And farther back than that we dare not go, on account of the fact that the game has been so changed that men who played in that day, unless they have paid very close technical attention to it since their graduation, would be almost useless as instructors of the new game, and that they would have to be. And more than all that, in our mind it is very doubtful if those who are competent would be able to take a two-months vacation from their business for the meagre compensation proposed. In view of these facts, we fail to see how a graduate system of coaching would or could work at Hamilton.

In another column of this issue is printed a communication from ex-Captain Glover, '10, in regard to this same matter, and the ideas incorporated in it, coming from such a source as they do, must necessarily have more weight than this comment. However, they also must, to some extent, corroborate the opinion of this writing. We commend the letter to the careful consideration of the College. The reasons for settling this matter at once are stated as well as they could be in the communication mentioned, and so we will refrain from repetition of those facts.

It is all important that Hamilton be represented by a good team next season. The opportunity for such a team was never better. The veteran backfield that did such excellent playing this year must make good, and it is the duty of the college to do all in its power to attain this end. In our opinion, a graduate system of coaching would at least be a serious obstacle in the path of the achievement of such a result, and we are radical enough to say that it will make it impossible. LIFE brings this matter to the attention of the student-body for its consideration.

THE NEW YORK *"Post"* comments as follows on the reductions of athletic schedules at Hamilton:

"The problem of financing athletics in the small college is one worthy of serious consideration. In the case of a college of fewer than 500 men, the expense of maintaining intercollegiate teams in football, track, baseball, hockey, basketball, and often tennis and lacrosse, is a heavy burden on the undergraduates.

In order to prevent this unreasonable sacrifice of money and energy, the Hamilton College Faculty took the lead among the small colleges in devising a remedy. The schedule of every intercollegiate team was cut down, and intercollegiate basketball and tennis abolished, together with the two underclass dances. An efficient department of intramural sports was instituted, which has received the support of every faculty member, alumnus, and undergraduate.

Intercollegiate teams have been made secondary to athletic training for every Hamilton student, with the result that the "cheering section" is taking outdoor exercise six days a week, and the college spirit fostered by the student body, which has come to look upon athletics as good fun rather than drudgery, is stronger than ever before. Hamilton has solved her problem of supporting athletic teams. That Williams and Amherst are about to follow this plan, gives a great deal of satisfaction to those who have fought for the "Hamilton idea."

To the Editor of LIFE—

I think I may speak without apology as to the scheme now proposed for a system of Alumni Coaching. While I do not doubt at all that it is theoretically most admirable, I see grave objections to its adoption in this college under existing conditions. At present our manager is engaged in arranging a schedule with colleges in our own class, so that next year there is no reason why we should not have a most successful season. But just because we are not going out of our class next year is no reason for allowing our system of play to degenerate, or for having any but the best coaching. If it is worth our while to have a football team next year, (and we are committed to the belief that it is,) then it is worth our while to do our best to make this team successful.

There are certain reasons why the alumni coaching system is not likely to work well. The scheme outlined is to have a field coach paid a small sum; to have the policy of the team determined by a board of alumni coaches, and to have as many other alumni coaches as may be return to give their help for such short periods of time as they could spare from their regular pursuits. If this scheme could be carried out with a competent field coach, an efficient resident board of advisory coaches, and enough really useful men returning at frequent intervals, it would certainly be worth the trial, if only for the sake of building up a Hamilton standard of play and conduct on the field.

Unfortunately, the conditions are very unfavorable to the success of this plan. In the first place, the field coach would, almost of necessity, be of inferior calibre. Hamilton men when they have graduated usually enter more permanent and profitable pursuits than athletic coaching, and these they cannot leave at a moment's notice for a two-months vacation. The few men who do take up coaching are constrained to do so by their financial necessity and their lack of other talents. The best of these men could not afford to coach Hamilton at the small sum proposed for the field coach, when they could earn far more at some other institution. Thus it is evident that we could not hope to get a really satisfactory field coach, altho with the extreme uncertainty of the other proposals his would be all the responsibility for the team, and it is not inconceivable, as we can easily see, that he might, during the greater part of the season, be the only one in charge.

There are such fundamental differences between what are known as the old and new games that it would be suicidal to depend to any extent on men who were trained in football more than five years ago, unless they have had active coaching experience since that time. This change must be allowed for not only in the strategy of the game, which has entirely changed, but in the fundamentals of backfield and line play. The line man of today plays a far different game than he did before the advent of the ten-yard rule and forward pass, and the same can be said of every other player. Hence our choice of coaches is limited substantially to the men who have graduated in the classes back to and including 1906. But, whereas there have been some finished players in these classes, the average number of men capable of coaching a team in these classes does not rise over two men per class. Of this small number of men, several at least are so situated that it would be impossible for them to return at all, and few if any could return for any such length of time as would be necessary to even put them in touch with the situation.

The advisory board of coaches would in the same way, boil down to whatever athletic alumni of whatever calibre happened to be in the vicinity, and could not be expected to be of much assistance to the field coach, while the imperfect touch which they would have with the situation would be a continual source of embarrassment. As a net result of this proposal, we would have an inferior head coach, an advisory board of uncertain usefulness, and a small number of devoted alumni coaches spending enough time here each week to learn the names and positions of the players by the end of the season. Can anyone conceive that a settled or successful policy would be the result of this proposal? In fact, the prime movers in this scheme admit that for four or five years it would probably work exceedingly ill, but that at some future date it would justify itself by a permanent policy. I can conceive of no worse time than the present, when for the first time in some years, we have a prospect of winning a majority of our games, to bring forward such a disastrous proposal.

The reason I have ventured this protest is that it is necessary for us to see the weakness of this proposition at once, if we are to throw it aside and devote our energies to procuring a reliable coach for next season. We cannot wait until the alumni who ever wore moleskins are heard from, for by that time all the best coaches will be engaged for next year and we will be left high and dry.

Because Coach Pryor knows the men on the squad and because of his excellent work this season, I recommend that he be engaged immediately, if possible. I will not be here to work with the splendid backfield which he developed this year, when next they take the field, but in conclusion, I wish all success to Captain Sidle and his minions for the season of 1910.

Very sincerely yours,

MUNDIE GLOVER, '10.

THE MARCH *LIT.*

The editor of the *Lit.* is very desirous of obtaining several articles about the college life and about Hamilton in general. The March *Lit.* is to be sent to sub-Freshmen and also is to be taken on the Musical Clubs trip down the Hudson. Any well-written article about Hamilton life or traditions will be accepted. These articles may also be handed to the President of the Press Association.

DEBATING

With the Triangular Debate but a month off the Debating Team, and in fact the college in general is centering all interest upon the fourth of March —the one big forensic date of the college year.

So far the team has spent much of its time in the preparation of material for the debate, the question of which is—*Aside from the constitutionality of the measure, a graduate income tax should be a part of our federal system of taxation.*

To insure a winning team, every possible moment of the remaining time is to be devoted to a thoro examination of the subject, and in this line inter-team debates have been started and take place daily under the supervision of Prof. Lewis.

Not only is their own end being developed, but the Hamilton debaters are studying the attitude of the other teams.

The Varsity Debating Team, as chosen from the competition last December, stands as follows: Dounce, Ondarcho, Baldwin, '10, Colson, Wisehart, S. Jones, '11, with Glover, '10, and Martin, '11, as alternates. As originally announced, three debates will be held on March 4, 1910, upon the above question.

Each college will be represented by two teams, consisting of three men and one alternate. The negative of the question will be upheld at home, while the visiting team supports the affirmative. At Schenectady, Hamilton will uphold the affirmative and Union the negative; at Hamilton, Union affirmative and Colgate negative; while at Clinton, Colgate maintains the affirmative and Hamilton the negative. The judges for each debate will be selected by the college not interested in that particular debate.

This Triangular Debate portends more interest than is seen at first sight. For the teams it means constant drudgery, but, on the other hand, a victory for Hamilton will mean much for the College.

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NOTES

—Hallock, '12, has been elected to the Press Club.

—Thomas, '12, is at his home in Utica on account of illness.

—Wheeler, '10, and McKee, '13, have joined the Cripples' Club.

—Prof. Babcock delivered an address on Lincoln last Saturday.

—A. F. Osborn, '09, has a position as private secretary in the Chamber of Commerce, Buffalo.

—Kultchar, Trout, Clapp, H. Jessup and McKee are out for the Assistant Managership of Baseball.

—Hallock, '06, has been appointed Inspector of Schools at Porto Rico, with headquarters at Ciales.

—The next Relay Race will be the annual mile race against Union at the Troy games on February 22nd.

—Smyth, '09, has been obliged to leave the University of Berlin on account of ill health, and is now traveling in Egypt.

—Announcement has been received of the engagement of George H. Sicard, '06, to Miss Katherine Burrell, of Brooklyn .

—Prof. Shepard entertained the French Club at his home last Thursday evening. "Le Barbier de Saville" was read.

—C. A. Sittig, '06, has been appointed Instructor in German and Latin at the Friends' High School of Philadelphia.

—McNair, '10, is assisting Prof. Lewis in the Department of English. The Sophomores will be entirely under his instruction.

—Dr. A. S. Hoyt, '72, of Auburn Theological Seminary, occupied the Chapel pulpit in the absence of Dr. Stryker on last Sunday.

—The Freshman Basketball Team has games arranged with U. F. A. and with the Utica Y. M. C. A. for the eveniings of the 21st and 24th of February.

—Among the Alumni who have been on the Hill during the past week were: Hoyt, '72, Weeden, '82, Johnston, '01, Sisson, '06, Wallace, '09, and Clark, ex-'12.

—Bishop and Callihan, of Cornell University, Schlager, of Wililams, and White, of Annapolis, have entered college as special students. Bishop is taking work with the Sophomores, while Callihan, Schlager and White have entered the Freshman class.

—At the Y. M. C. A. Laymen's Conference, which will be held in Syracuse on Saturday of this week, the following men will represent Hamilton: Robinson, Stube, McNair, Knox, '10; Day, Gaige, Westcott, Peters, Colson, '11, Thompson, Eggleston, '13. Colson, '11, will speak.

—A bulletin has been placed in the Y. M. C. A. lobby, where any men who know of schools that would care to enter the Interscholastic are requested to sign their names. Over one hundred schools have been invited and several have made known their intention of competing in the meet.

—The Sophomore Basketball Team will play Clinton in the village tomorrow evening. The 1912 team is one of the fastest class teams this year, and is doing a great deal of practicing for the Interclass series. The team will be chosen from the following list of candidates: Knox, Regin, McGovern, guards; Root, Peters, DuBordieu, forwards; Nixon and Watkin, center.

LIBRARY ADDITIONS

The extensive library of text and reference books which was a part of the estate of the late Oren Root, for some time Professor of Mathematics, has recently been added to the College Library. The gift was made by Elihu Root, '64, and considering the value of the collection for reference purposes, the addition will be of great benefit to the College.

The class in Bibliography has been engaged for some time in accessioning the many volumes in the Root library. In the main the collection consists of text books on mathematics and science. There are esveral rare editions among these, including the works of some of the older authorities on scientific studies. The volumes on astronomy are especially valuable on account of their completeness, and the wide field which they cover. Besides this there are several rare books on historical, political and economic subjects, and many old pamphlets which will greatly add to the present collection in the Library.

The collection of bound periodicals is quite extensive, and covers a variety of subjects, from reviews on science to horticulture and gardening. Taken as a whole the addition of this old collection will enhance the value of the College Library as a place of scientific reference, and will make it richer in the possession of the best authorities in mathematics and science.

The policy of acquiring full sets of authors rather than purchasing books indiscriminately has been adopted, and in pursuance of this policy several complete new sets of authors have been added. Chief among these are a complete new edition of Ruskin and a full set of Ibsen's works. These are very fine editions and are but recently from the press.

The Files of the State Educational Department have been recently added also, and comprise the entire set to date. The bound Congressional Records for the last session of Congress at Washington have recently been received.

To the magazine section of the Library about twenty-five bound volumes of the current magazines of last year will shortly be added. The magazines will be much more durable and easily handled in this form, and will make the magazine issues complete.

All of the books recently added to the Library are well bound and have been printed within a year, which shows that their information is most recent and most reliable.

D. T.

The weird cry of D. T. sounded across the Campus last Thursday night, announcing the assembly of the members of the Club in the vicinity of the college. The purpose of the meeting was to initiate Boone, '12, into the mysteries of the awe-inspiring Thirteen. After the ceremonies were completed, the members of the Club and the Alumni present were entertained by Eells, Dorrance, Boone and Regin. Boone was initiated into D. T. to fill the place left vacant by Wallace, ex-'12, who is now at Brown. Saturday the Club had its picture taken, and in the evening the members held a theatre party at the Shubert.

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